

with that understanding, I am not sure I can support any of this bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers. We are on the committee amendments.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I would have to ask Senator Johnson, Chairman of the Revenue Committee, a question or two.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Johnson, some forms of gambling I understand are a little better than others. This is one of those that I don't really completely comprehend, but to start with, this is considered one of the Christian or good forms of gambling, isn't it?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It uplifts society.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: It provides emergency vehicles to state fairs and other little cities to keep their representatives in the Legislature kowtowing to the race tracks, more or less.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: All right, now here is my question with that ground work laid. This bill ultimately will raise the amount of money exempted from the parimutuel tax from 1 million to 7 million.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is that a sevenfold increase in the amount exempted?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: It is a biblical number.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Could it be called 700 percent?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.